

district director. During the course of his tenure there, he assisted thousands of constituents with various problems. He became an expert at resolving immigration problems and was recognized throughout the city. After nearly 13 years with Congressman OWENS, Mr. Taylor retired; however he remains active in his community.

Kenneth Taylor also devotes much of his time to music. He serves as an organist, composer, and arranger for his church in Brooklyn. Moreover, he is vice president of the 100 Men for Major Owens; member of District 65; and member of Sigma Alpha Delta.

Shortly after his arrival from his native country of Cuba, Kenneth Taylor enlisted in the United States Army and was stationed in France and Germany. At the end of his enlistment, he received an honorable discharge. He, thereafter, attended Bernard Baruch College where he graduated with a bachelor of arts in management. He also received a certificate in paralegal studies from Long Island University and completed an internship with the corporate counsel of the city of New York.

Kenneth Taylor is a Beacon-of-Hope for central Brooklyn and for all Americans.

SALUTE TO JAMES JOHN LENIHAN

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 7, 1997

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker. In an era when hard work and dedication to the public good sometimes seem outdated, we need to be reminded what personal character and long-term commitment mean. It is the men and woman who work hard, raise children and contribute to the quality of their neighbor's lives who are the true heroes of American life.

Jim Lenihan is such a person. Jim graduated from the University of San Francisco, married his wife, Nancy, and began a long and successful career in the insurance business which lasted forty years. During this time, Jim and Nancy raised their five children, while Jim found time to engage in a host of civic activities in Mountain View and Santa Clara County. A dedicated family man who also worked hard to give back to his community, Jim is much loved in Mountain View. In 1960, Jim began his other career in the water resources field by being elected Board Director of the Santa Clara Valley Water Conservation District, the predecessor to today's Santa Clara Valley Water District in San Jose, CA.

Jim has served for 36 years on the Santa Clara Valley Water District Board as a guiding force for thoughtful water resources management. During his tenure, Jim had a leading role in the critical decisions facing the District in the development of a reliable water supply for the County. Specifically, Jim was involved in the development of the San Felipe Water Importation System, the Guadalupe River Flood Control Project, the State Water Project and a host of state and federal water policy issues. His early involvement and effective leadership to secure local, state and federal finding in support of the State Water Project and the federal Central Valley Project has helped make Santa Clara County and the State of California leaders in the stewardship of our water resources. One of Jim's key successes

and one which our County long profit from was Jim's hands-on involvement and support for the approval and construction of the San Felipe Division of the Central Valley Project. This project, for the first time, brought federal water into our County. His leadership was critical at a time when many did not think it was possible to overcome all the hurdles involved in bringing Federal water to our area. But Jim did.

Throughout his career, the governors of California have sought out Jim's counsel and leadership naming him to numerous boards and task forces on California's more difficult water issues ranging from Auburn Dam to the transfer of the Central Valley Project to the state. Jim also served for ten critical years as a governor's appointee to the California Water Commission. This assignment brought him to Washington to make California's case for increased funding for our water initiatives. Many stories are told of Jim's tenacious, but thoughtful support for California's projects among the appropriations committee staff and federal agencies—and what a difference he made.

I was privileged to see Jim in action last spring as he led a San Jose contingent to Washington to make the case for key funding levels for the Guadalupe River Project. His sincere feeling for the protection of his constituents, coupled with his knowledge of the appropriations process and his Irish wit and good humor made for a winning combination. This enabled the County's federal representatives to secure federal funding in difficult financial times. Jim's been working his magic for our County now for 36 years—we cannot afford for him to retire.

But retire he will in late January 1997 to Watsonville, CA, with Nancy where he will enjoy his five children and plan for the next phase of his tremendous career. We know Jim will stay involved in California water issues and as the County's elder statesman on water policy, we look forward to calling on him for his wisdom and insight in the years ahead.

And so Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my fellow Californians' utmost gratitude to Mr. Jim Lenihan for a job well-done earning him a list of sterling achievements rarely matched among our state's leaders in water policy development.

A TRIBUTE TO THE RAIDERS OF MOWEAQUA, IL

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 7, 1997

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I want to honor a group of dedicated high school athletes that I am proud to say are from my district. The Central A&M Raiders football team recently won Second Place in the Illinois Class 2A State Football Championship and finished their season with a record of 12 wins and 2 losses.

The consolidated school districts of Assumption and Moweaqua have produced a football dynasty in central Illinois. This season the Central A&M Raiders made their third appearance in the Illinois State High School Football Championship Game and this is also the third time that the Raiders have brought

home the second place trophy. Unfortunately for the Raiders, the third time was not the charm for the State championship. However, I believe that there are no losers in a State championship game, because both of the teams playing are winners already.

Having the opportunity to play in a State championship game in any sport is a great accomplishment that cannot be attained without hard work. I commend the Raiders students, coaches, and fans for their hard work and dedication to the sport of football as well as the loyalty that they have shown for their school.

For the record, I would like to list the names of the players, coaches, managers, cheerleaders, and pom-pom squad members involved in the success of the 1996 Central A&M Raiders Football Team. First, the players: Jim Dial, Ryan Dorsey, Craig Fathauer, Ross Forlines, Joe Gould, Matt Hite, Jim Hunt, Travis Kerby, Drew Moore, Aaron Potsick, Tim Prosser, Trent Rodman, Wes Shanks, Wes Temples, Jeremy Buckles, Jason Churchill, Virgil Coffman, Bob Hogan, B.J. Jordan, Perry Jordan, Mike McLain, Jeremy Medler, Brad Reatherford, Jon Simmons, Richard Stuart, Darin Wall, Derek Wall, Tim Webster, Jeff Carter, Brent Damery, Graham Danyus, Justin Dirks, Jacob Elder, Adam Germscheid, Ross Minott, Josh Monson, Nathan Morrison, Chris Stringer, Andy Tibbs, and Brandon McVey. Coaching the Raiders were Mark Ramsey, Gerald Temples, Brett Hefner, Doug Morrell, Brad Kerby, Mike Lees, and Jerit Medler. Team managers were John Allison and Jesse Adrian. The cheerleaders included Amanda Bilyeu, Bidget Bilyeu, Amber Blades, Jody Burckhardt, Michelle Matlock, Courtney Nicol, Jennifer Ramsey, Abbey Seifert, Amy Seifert, Jenny Vincent, Brianne Wempen, and Hilary Wooters. Members of the pom-pom squad are Brooke Boitz, Kelly Clutter, Amanda Dorsey, Amanda Flemming, Jennifer Ludlum, Neely Sloan, Ronda Sloan, and Tiffany Wilson.

On behalf of the 19th District of Illinois, I extend my congratulations to the Central A&M Raiders on another successful season. As the words to your fans' favorite cheer says, "We are proud of you."

PROTECT VOTING RIGHTS FOR THE HOMELESS; THE VOTING RIGHTS OF HOMELESS CITIZENS ACT OF 1997

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 7, 1997

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, as the 105th Congress convenes today, I am pleased to reintroduce the Voting Rights of Homeless Citizens Act of 1997. The purpose of this legislation is to enable the homeless, who are citizens of this country, to vote. The bill would remove the legal and administrative barriers that inhibit them from exercising this right. No one should be excluded from registering to vote simply because they do not have a home. But in many States, the homeless are left out and left behind. That is not right. It is not fair. It is not the way of this country.

During this century, we have removed major obstacles that prevented many of our citizens from voting. Not too long ago, people had to

pay a poll tax or own property to vote. Women and minorities were prohibited from casting the ballot.

Before the Civil Rights Movement, there were areas in the South where 50 to 80 percent of the population was black. Yet, there was not a single registered black voter. In 1964, three young men in rural Mississippi gave their lives while working to register people to vote. Many people shedded blood and some even died to secure voting rights protection for all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, over 30 years ago, President Lyndon Johnson proposed that we "eliminate every remaining obstacle to the right and opportunity to vote." Eight months later, the Voting Rights Act of 1965 was signed into law, making it possible for millions of Americans to enter the political process. The time is long overdue to ensure that every American has the opportunity to exercise this fundamental right.

Our Nation has made progress. The 19th amendment finally gave women the right to vote. The motor voter law made voter registration more accessible to working people. Yet, despite tremendous progress, we still have work to do. I have dedicated my life to ensuring that every American is treated equally and that everyone has the right to register and vote. I ask my colleagues to join me in opening the political process to every American—even those without a home. I urge my colleagues to join me by cosponsoring and supporting passage of the Voting Rights of Homeless Citizens Act of 1997.

HONORING GARRISON KEILLOR

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 7, 1997

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, It is with great pleasure that I take this time today to recognize America's most gifted, thoughtful, and talented entertainer, writer, and storyteller, Garrison Keillor. I recently had the opportunity to welcome Garrison to the Great Lakes State for a wonderful Christmas performance at the University of Michigan.

Born in the eastern Minnesota town of Anoka in 1942, Garrison Keillor has been providing radio listeners with a serious, yet humorous, view of everyday life through his descriptive and creative stories since his undergraduate days at the University of Minnesota. After graduating Garrison went to work for The New Yorker, where he exhibited his writing skills and explored new interests. However, it wasn't until 1974 that Mr. Keillor began a new radio program that has become a weekly tradition for his almost 2 million listeners worldwide.

"Prairie Home Companion," Garrison's variety show creation in 1974, has been a family favorite in my home for over 20 years. Heard on close to 350 public radio stations across the country, with listenership growing, PHC has created a welcome and enjoyable atmosphere reminiscent of radio of years past by providing unique entertainment and strong mental images that only radio can present. Mr. Keillor exhibits a superb knack for story spinning that is refreshing, and a nice change of pace from the pressures we all face in our ev-

eryday lives. Because I grew up in the small town of Edgerton, MN, I cherish the moments I am able to enjoy listening to Garrison's radio imagery and reliving some of the joys of my midwestern youth.

Mr. Keillor's work is not limited to his superb activities over radio airwaves. Readers of The New York Times and The Atlantic are enriched and entertained by the thoughts of Garrison through his contributed articles. He is also the author of numerous books: "We are Still Married," "Happy to be Here," "Lake Wobegon Days," "WLT," "Leaving Home," "The Book to Guys" and the children's book "Cat, You Better Come Home." He has also broken box-office records in performances with orchestras across the country and overseas.

While his work is obviously appreciated by his fans, as evidenced by his loyal listenership, there is also a mutual respect and admiration from his peers. During the first 13 years of PHC, Garrison received the prestigious George Peabody and Edward R. Murrow Awards, along with a medal from the American Academy of Arts and Letters for his work. He has also received two ACE Awards, a Peabody, and a Grammy, along with several Grammy nominations. The Museum of Broadcast Communications has also paid tribute by inducting him into their Radio Hall of Fame.

I especially appreciate Mr. Keillor's discussions of everyday religious activities of Americans. Although this subject is considered taboo by most media performers, Garrison treats religious beliefs as a normal part of human activity, which it truly is for most people. He discusses it intelligently, thoughtfully, and respectfully, but does so with his superb sense of humor. He points out the foibles of human behavior vis a vis people's religious beliefs, yet does so in a way that humorously causes us to reflect on our faith and actions and how they relate to the greater meaning of life.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Garrison Keillor for his gifted contributions to our society. His dedication, talent, and writing are a true delight for those who have had the opportunity to enjoy his work.

HOUSING AND ILLEGAL ALIENS

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 7, 1997

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation which is designed to correct a drafting error which appeared in Public Law 104-208 and which pertains to the ability of ineligible aliens to receive Federal housing assistance.

Amendments made to section 214 of the Housing Act, as incorporated into the Immigration Reform bill adopted last year, were designed to make it more difficult for illegal aliens to receive housing assistance. The fact is, illegals are currently receiving housing assistance and every day newly arrived illegal aliens are applying for assistance. HUD, in the past has been very inconsistent in enforcing the laws designed to prevent this funding from going to ineligible families.

Unfortunately, in attempting to correct the obvious flaws in the law, we made a drafting

mistake and now HUD is threatening to make the proverbial mountain out of the mole hill.

In considering the potential problems large public housing authorities may encounter as they try to implement mandatory verification of citizenship or immigration status of all applicants for housing assistance, the Senate tried to provide an opt-out provision which would allow HA's to grant housing assistance before all verification was completed if the verification process was taking too long or if the waiting period began to result in an unusual amount of vacant units. While House Members were at first reluctant to put this opt-out into statutory language, it was included in the final version of the bill signed into law.

Unfortunately, HUD has now interpreted the opt-out language to mean that HA's could opt-out of the entire section 214. In other words, if HUD's view prevailed, HA's could legally give housing assistance to illegal aliens without any questions being asked. Needless to say, I totally disagree with the interpretation the Department has rendered on the issue. How HUD's lawyers could come to the conclusion that while adopting legislative changes to section 214, which were intended to make it more difficult for illegal aliens who have been determined by the HA's to be ineligible for new or continued assistance, the Congress would then intend to allow the HA's to turn around and not enforce section 214, is beyond me.

For the record, and as the principal author of the section 214 changes, I will again, state that under no circumstance did the Congress intend any interpretation of the legislation which gives any HA the option of following the law as written in section 214.

It is clear to me, as it was to all of the Members involved, that the author of the opt out only intended to allow HA's with high turnover to be able to place families in housing without having to wait for a verification from the INS. Again, it is inconceivable to me how HUD could say that our intent was to allow HA's to completely ignore a law we were trying to tighten.

The effect of HUD's conclusions would suggest that HUD is now telling the HA's that if they do not want to enforce section 214 they do not have to. This means that HUD is telling the HA's that they may now elect to grant housing assistance to illegal aliens or continue to provide assistance to illegals even after they had been determined to be ineligible. I do not believe this is the official position of the Department.

My legislation is intended to clear up any doubt among HUD or the housing authorities.

APPRECIATION TO THE PEOPLE OF MASSACHUSETTS 3D DISTRICT

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 7, 1997

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, today I took my oath of office to represent faithfully the people of the 3d district of Massachusetts. As I stood on the floor of the House with my 6-year-old niece, Courtney, I remembered the faces of all the families—the men, women and children—with whom I'd met throughout the 3d district during this past year. The pledge I took